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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/809,405	03/15/2001	Frank Rademacher	964-010251	3576

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EXAMINER

SENGI, BEHROOZ M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2621

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04/14/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/809,405	Applicant(s) RADEMACHER ET AL.	
	Examiner BEHROOZ SENFI	Art Unit 2621	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 February 2009.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3,4,6-8 and 11-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3,4,6,7 and 11-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 8 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 15 March 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1,3-4,6-7,11-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Thomas Enkelmann (EP 254192) in view of Rosinski et al (US 5,793,308).

Regarding claim 1, Thomas discloses, an industrial truck (i.e. fig. 1, truck 16), comprising; a driver's seat located in a driver's cab, the driver's seat oriented in the forward direction (i.e. fig. 1, shows the driver seat and the driver's seat oriented in a forward direction), at least one screen located in the vicinity of the driver's seat (i.e. fig. 2, screen 1 located in the vicinity of the driver), a counterweight located on a rear of the truck (i.e. fig. 2, counterweight 19), a first camera pointing toward the rear (i.e. fig. 2, camera 2"), the first camera mounted on the rear of the vehicle to the rear of the driver's seat and above the counterweight at a first height (fig. 2, camera 2" mounted on the rear of the vehicle to the rear of the driver's seat and above the counterweight at a first height) wherein the first camera provides a view of a distant area behind the industrial truck (i.e. fig. 2, camera 2" provides a view of a distant area), and wherein the image taken with the first camera and/or the image taken with the two additional cameras can

Art Unit: 2621

be displayed on the screen (i.e. fig. 2, display screen 1, for displaying the image taken from the camera).

Thomas indicates additional/further camera can be mounted at the front or rear of the industrial truck (i.e., page 5, last paragraph). Thomas is silent in regards to explicit of, two additional cameras are each mounted on the rear of the industrial truck to the rear of the driver's seat and on an upper segment of the driver's at a height greater than the first height, the two additional cameras being spaced outwardly from the first camera on opposing sides of the first camera and each having a diagonally downward directed angle of view, and the two additional cameras provide a view of a near area behind the industrial truck.

Rosinski (i.e., figs. 11A-11B and 12B-12C, shows the arrangement of two additional cameras or multiple cameras mounted on the rear of the industrial truck, e.g., having rear field of view, the two additional cameras being spaced outwardly from the first camera on opposing sides of the first camera, for example; fig. 12B shows the two cameras on the two additional cameras spaced outwardly from the first camera, and the two additional cameras provide a view of a near area behind the industrial truck, e.g., the two cameras as shown in fig. 12, provide a view of a near area behind the industrial truck).

In view of the above, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify and increase field of view of the operator in device for driving vehicles of Thomas, in accordance with the teaching of Rosinski by incorporating multiple cameras, to allow a vehicle operator to view blind

Art Unit: 2621

spots (e.g. near area behind the vehicle/truck) at the rear end of the vehicle, as suggested by Rosinski (col. 2, lines 58-63).

Regarding claim 3, it is noted that combination of Thomas and Rosinski is silent in regards to, two additional cameras are each equipped with a wide-angle lens, as claimed. Examiner takes Official Notice to note that, the use of wide-angle lens in the camera is notoriously well known and conventionally used for the benefit of covering larger area in video navigation and/or monitoring. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to implement such teaching as they are notoriously well known in the conventional art, to view or cover larger area under camera monitoring.

Regarding claims 4 and 6, the combination of Thomas and Rosinski teaches, switching device by which the far area viewed by the first camera or the near area viewed by two additional cameras can be selectively displayed on the screen as desired (i.e. col. 7, lines 8 – 15, selectively displaying the images from the camera).

Regarding claim 7, wherein the screen is effectively connected with an image mixer by which the images taken by the two additional cameras are superimposed on each other on the screen (Rosinski, figs. 2 – 3, CPU 21 and MCU 211, col. 3, lines 30 – 32, col. 6, lines 4 – 6 are being used to superimposed images on the screen).

Regarding claim 11, the combination of Thomas and Rosinski teaches, the limitation “screen is located inside a driver’s cab of the industrial truck in the vicinity of the driver” reads on (Thomas; fig. 2, screen 1).

Art Unit: 2621

Regarding claims 12 - 13, the combination of Thomas and Rosinski teaches, wherein the industrial truck has a steering device with an electrical steering sensor (fig. 1, device 4, col. 1, lines 55 – 60, col. 2, lines 23 – 26 and col. 5, lines 57 – 67).

Regarding claim 14, the combination of Thomas and Rosinski teaches, screen display (Thomas; fig. 2, screen display 1) for displaying images captured by the camera to the vehicle operator. It is noted that Thomas is silent in regards to screen is in the form of a “flat screen”; however the functionality of the screens are the same and both are used for displaying the images taken from the imaging device (i.e. camera). Furthermore; Examiner takes Official Notice to note that; the use of a flat screen is well known and conventionally used in the prior art of the record. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to use a flat screen as an alternative screen, for providing images captured by the camera to the vehicle operator.

Regarding claim 15, the combination of Thomas and Rosinski teaches, the claimed forklift truck (Thomas; fig. 1, forklift truck 16).

Regarding claims 16-17, the combination of Thomas and Rosinski teaches, two additional cameras being mounted to a rear of the truck, different arrangement of mounting multiple cameras in different height in the rear of the truck, as discussed in claim 1 above,. Thomas (i.e., fig. 2, camera 2”) shows the camera being mounted to a rear column of the driver’s seat. Rosinski as discussed in claim 1 above, teaches arrangement of plurality of cameras being mounted in different height in the rear of an industrial truck. Therefore the combined teachings of Thomas and Rosinski make it

Art Unit: 2621

obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to realize the advantage of adding/mounting additional cameras in to a rear column of the driver's seat in device for driving vehicles of Thomas, to increase the field of view of the driver.

Regarding claims 18-19, the combination of Thomas and Rosinski teaches, different arrangement of camera in order for the driver/operator to detect/view the activity of a rear area, as discussed in the above claims.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claim 8 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Amendment

4. Applicant's arguments filed 12/29/2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Response to remarks:

Examiner understood applicant's point of argument, as indicated in the remarks. However; it is noted that the primary reference discloses a Fork lift/industrial truck having a camera in the back and above the counter weight and a display in order for the operator to view the area behind the truck, and the secondary reference Rosinski teaches a system aids in allowing a vehicle operator to view blind spots, e.g., rear area directly behind, at the rear end of the truck, using different camera arrangement; therefore, based on the teaching of Rosinski it would have been to modify the primary

reference in accordance with the teaching of the secondary reference for more precise of viewing the blind spots behind the vehicle/truck.

Conclusion

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Behrooz Senfi whose telephone number is 571-272-7339. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:00-3:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mehrdad Dastouri can be reached on 571-272-7418. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2621

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Behrooz Senfi/
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2621